

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Original) A data structure for an order processing system comprising:
a complex object comprising a service profile, wherein the service profile represents an asset associated with an account;
a data manager operable to
 receive at least a portion of the service profile from an external server via an information network; and
 generate a business object based on the portion of the service profile;
a transformation engine operable to generate at least a portion of the complex object based on the business object;
wherein the complex object is stored in an asset table.

28. (Original) The data structure of Claim 27, wherein the asset table comprises at least one of:

an asset price adjusted to take into account discounts;
a base price of the asset;
a unique identifier of the asset;
an identifier of an account that is billed for the asset;
an identifier of an account at which the asset is provided;
an identifier of an agreement under which the asset is provided;
a status of the asset;
a date that service started;
a date that service ended;
a price description;
an identifier of a metering asset with which the asset is associated; and
an absolute quantity of an item given its position in the asset hierarchy.

29. (Original) The data structure of Claim 28, wherein the action code is set to one of:
a value to indicate that the asset is active;

a value to indicate that the asset has been deleted; and
a value to indicate that the asset has been suspended. .

30. (Original) The data structure of Claim 27, wherein at least a portion of the information in the asset table is transferred to an order table when a new quote is created.

31. (Original) The data structure of Claim 27, wherein at least a portion of the information in an order table is transferred to the asset table when an order is provisioned.

32. (Original) The data structure of Claim 27, further comprising:
a quote table representing offers to change the products and services provided to a customer, wherein the quote table comprises at least one of:
an identifier of an agreement under which the quote was made;
an identifier of a metering asset with which this asset is associated;
an absolute quantity of an item given its position in the asset hierarchy;
an identifier of an account that is billed for the asset;
an identifier of an account at which the asset is provided;
an action code to indicate whether there is a change to the specified service item;
a telephone number corresponding to these items; and
a unique identifier of the asset.

33. (Original) The data structure of Claim 32, wherein the action code required during the Delta Process is set to one of:

a value to indicate that a quote item was added;
a value to indicate that the quote item was deleted; and
a value to indicate that the quote item was updated.

34. (Original) The data structure of Claim 32, wherein a quote is converted to an order when the customer accepts the quote.

35. (Original) The data structure of Claim 32, wherein multiple service quotes are associated with a customer.

36. (Original) The data structure of Claim 32, wherein multiple service quotes are associated with a service item.

37. (Original) The data structure of Claim 32, wherein a workflow changes the service quote status to “Order Placed” once a quote is successfully converted to an order.

38. (Original) The data structure of Claim 27, further comprising:
an order table representing instructions to change the products and services provided to a customer, wherein the order table comprises at least one of:
an identifier of an agreement under which the order was made;
an identifier of a metering asset with which the asset is associated;
an absolute quantity of an item given its position in the asset hierarchy;
an identifier of an account that is billed for the asset;
an identifier of an account at which the asset is provided;
an action code to indicate whether there is a change to the specified service item;
a unique identifier of the asset;
a telephone number corresponding to these items;
a date and time at which the order was completed; and
a status field for items in the order.

39. (Original) The data structure of Claim 38, wherein the action code is set to one of:
a value to indicate that an order item has been added;
a value to indicate that the order item has been deleted; and
a value to indicate that the order item has been updated.

40. (Original) The data structure of Claim 38, wherein the status field is set to one of:
a value to indicate that an order item is deleted;
a value to indicate that the order item is Active; and
a value to indicate that the order item is Suspended.

41. (Original) The data structure of Claim 27, wherein the asset represents a product with a hierarchy of sub-products, and at least one sub-product is a complex product.

42. (Original) The data structure of Claim 27, further comprising:
a product integration table comprising at least one of:
a track as asset field to indicate whether a product should be converted to an asset by an order-to-asset workflow process;

a metering point field to indicate whether a product requires a metering point;
a price type field; and
a transfer field to indicate whether the asset can be moved when a customer changes address.

43. (Original) The data structure of Claim 42, wherein the price type is one of:
a value to indicate that price is a one-time charge;
a value to indicate that the price is recurring; and
a value to indicate that the price is based on usage.

44. (Original) The data structure of Claim 42, wherein the order type is set to indicate a service order and the status of the new order is changed to indicate the order is new.

45. (Original) The data structure of Claim 27, wherein the status of each order line item is set to indicate that the order item is new when the action field is non-null and the status of each order line item is set to indicate that the order item is null when the action field is null.

46. (Original) The data structure of Claim 32, further comprising:
a quote header table comprising at least one of:
an identifier of an agreement under which the quote was made;
an identifier of an account to be billed for the asset; and
an identifier of an account at which the asset will be provided.

47. (Original) The data structure of Claim 38, further comprising:
an order header table comprising at least one of:
an identifier of an agreement under which the order was made;
an identifier of an account that will be billed for the asset; and
an identifier of an account at which the asset will be provided.

48. (Original) The data structure of Claim 27, further comprising:
a quote header table comprising billing and service account information; and
an order header table comprising billing and service account information,
wherein at least a portion of the information in the quote header table is transferred to the order header table when the quote is converted to an order.

49. (Original) The data structure of Claim 32, wherein at least a portion of the information in the quote table is transferred to an order table when a quote is converted to an order.